

SENATOR CULLAN: Mr. President, I move the E & R amendments to LB 546 be adopted.

SENATOR BARNETT: You've heard the motion. All in favor of adopting the E & R amendments to 546 say aye. All those opposed, same sign.

CLERK: Now, Mr. President, we have a series of amendments. The first one is offered by Senator Fowler. It is found on page 2049 of the Legislative Journal. (Read amendment).

SENATOR BARNETT: Senator Fowler.

SENATOR FOWLER: This amendment was in response to concerns that people had about whether or not there would be a chemical dependency unit at the minimum-medium security units in Lincoln and Omaha. What it does is to indicate that the intent of this Legislature is that one of the housing units that is being built be set aside at Lincoln, and one that is being built in Omaha be set aside for a chemical dependency program. This goes, in a way, further than the Governor's recommendations for this year. This proposal was additional money to construct one new unit at Lincoln, and nothing at Omaha. So, although this doesn't provide additional housing, it does say that there will be a chemical dependency unit at Lincoln and Omaha. A little history on this is that two years ago the Legislature appropriated \$25,000 for a program statement for a chemical dependency unit. That money was never spent and that program statement never developed. Normally the process on capital construction is that there should be a program statement before construction proceeds. However, since there is a good deal of concern that we indicate our concern for chemical dependency, I'm putting this amendment up to designate each of these two units, even though the program statement was not completed. I would hope within the next year the Department of Corrections would develop a better understanding...develop an idea of the program that they want to have at these units. I would move for its adoption.

SENATOR BARNETT: Chair recognizes Senator Mills.

SENATOR MILLS: Mr. President, members of the Legislature. I have some questions of Senator Fowler. Senator Fowler, you are designating, by your amendment, a chemical dependency unit at the new Reformatory, to be built in Lincoln. Is that correct?

SENATOR FOWLER: Well the amendment is both---one section of the Lincoln, and one section of the Omaha.

SENATOR MILLS: Okay. I was just taking one part at a time because there is nothing done in Omaha, there is no program statement, there is nothing being built, there is nothing in Omaha so let's speak to Lincoln. You are, in Lincoln, designating one pod, by your amendment, to be a chemical dependency unit. I think that is what you're saying. Is that right, Senator Fowler?

SENATOR FOWLER: Right.

SENATOR MILLS: And that 250...was it 256 bed? I think I keep calling it a hospital, not anything else. Then in your amendment you are further saying wait a minute, we're going to take 64 of those and make a chemical dependency unit of them. Is that right?